

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of presenting data over a network comprising:
providing a persistent graphical object representing a rotating globe;
presenting said graphical object in a composition accessed by an initial application, said object
5 having state and having one or more possible external connections;
allowing a user to indicate relocation of said graphical object to a location outside of said initial
application; and
thereafter moving said graphical object to said outside location, preserving state of said graphical
object.
- 10 2. The method according to claim 1 wherein said graphical object, once relocated, will
persist and maintain state after termination of said initial application.
3. The method according to claim 1 wherein said initial application location is selected from
the group consisting of:
a web browser and said composition is a web page, or
15 a desktop provided by an operating system.
4. The method according to claim 1 wherein said overlay images location is selected from
the group consisting of:
one or more hyperlinks to other information available over a network;
one or more images indicating weather in various location; and
20 one or more links indicating news stories related to a particular location displayed on said globe.
5. The method according to claim 1 wherein said relocation may be repeated from a current
location to any number of additional platforms.
6. The method according to claim 3 wherein said desktop provided by an operating system
is an interface of a platform, said platform selected from the group consisting of: a windows PC, a
25 Macintosh PC, a Unix-type operating system, a set-top box, a wireless logic appliance, internet
appliance, a personal digital assistant, or any other device connected to a network.
7. The method according to claim 1 wherein said new location is selected from the group
consisting of: a desktop providing by an operating system; a different application: a different
computer platform with a different operating system.

8. The method according to claim 1 wherein said graphical object comprises:
one or more user interface components and wherein said components are preserved after a
relocation; and
one or more connections to one or more external entities and wherein said connections are
preserved after a relocation.
9. The method according to claim 1 wherein said allowing a user to indicate relocation
comprises selecting and dragging a graphical object.
10. The method according to claim 1 wherein said allowing a user to indicate relocation
comprises discontinuously selecting a graphical object and placing said object in a new location.
11. The method according to claim 8 wherein said one or more external entities are selected
from the group consisting of: web servers, other applications, background processes, and other remote
processes.
12. A system presenting web content comprising:
a information appliance displayable representation of a globe, where the globe is displayed using
3D software rendering;
a logic module that projects web content onto the surface said representation of a globe;
wherein said content appears on the globe at geographic locations associated with said content.
13. A system according to claim 12 further wherein said representation of a globe can be
accessed through a web browser as embedded in a web page and/or can reside on an operating system
desktop (PC and/or Mac and/or other platform) and/or can be executed as a stand-alone application in
a window and further wherein the same functionality is provided in any location.
14. A system according to claim 12 further wherein web content is rendered on the globe as
channels, wherein a channel is a set of related content from a content provider, or an association of
content providers, or a broker of web content, and wherein content items in a channel have some
geographical distribution.
15. A system according to claim 14 further wherein content items can be associated with
points on said representation of a globe or areas on said representation of a globe.
16. A system according to claim 14 further wherein a pointer cursor is moved over a content
item a text will pop up revealing details about the content item.

17. A system according to claim 14 further wherein active content items can have actions associated with them to be triggered when the user selects a content item.

18. A system according to claim 17 further wherein said actions are one or more selected from the group consisting of:

- opening a web browser with a URL link as a parameter;
- bringing content to the globe with a parameter the web address of content;
- initiation of communication to another globevoii user through email, chat, or sending an instant message;
- submitting an HTTP post that initiates or completes a web service associated with a channel provider, such as booking a flight with a travel agency and with the parameters being an IP request address and post data.

19. A system according to claim 14 further wherein channels are defined using XML format, describing content in terms of geographic position, click-action, parameter for the click action, etc.

20. A system according to claim 19 further wherein channels may have reference to Envooi sub-compositions to be added dynamically to a GlobeVoii application, providing a unique interface and behavior for a given channel and wherein these references are used to retrieve the Envooi sub compositions from a web server.

21. A system according to claim 14 further wherein channels are licensed to channel providers on a pay per channel; pay per end user; or a pay per user action basis.

22. A system according to claim 14 further wherein a texture map rendered on said representation of a Globe is part of a separate 2D rendering system, said 2D rendering system comprising a local display managing system for managing repainting damages.

23. A system according to claim 14 further wherein a representation of a globe displays real time daylight illumination of the Earth using 3D shading with the lighting source being the correct relative position of the sun to the Earth.